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From Monday June 7. to Thursday June 10. 1680.

Whitehall, June 8.

THis day was Publiſhed His Majeſties Declaration, which follows,

CHARLES R.

WE cannot but take notice of the great Induſtry and Malice wherewith ſome men of a Seditious and Reſtleſs Spirit, do ſpread abroad a moſt falſe and ſcandalous Report of a Marriage or Contract of Marriage ſuppoſed to be had and made between Us and one Mrs. *Walters*, alias *Barlow*, now deceaſed, Mother of the preſent Duke of *Monmouth*, aiming thereby to fill the minds of Our Loving Subjects with Doubts and Fears, and if poſſible, to divide them into Parties and Factions, and as much as in them lies, to bring into Queſtion the clear undoubted Right of our True and Lawful Heirs and Succeſſors to the Crown. We have therefore thought Our ſelf obliged to let Our Loving Subjects ſee what ſteps We (out of our Care of them and their Poſterity) have already made, in order to obviate the ill Conſequences that ſo dangerous and malicious a Report may have in future times upon the Peace of Our Kingdoms.

In *January* laſt was Twelvemonth, We made a Declaration written with Our own Hand in theſe words following,

THere being a falſe and malicious Report induſtriouſly ſpread abroad by ſom, who are neither Friends to Me or the Duke of Monmouth, *as if I ſhould have been either Contracted or Married to his Mother; and though I am moſt Confident that this Idle Story cannot have any effect in this Age, yet I thought it my duty in relation to the true Succeſſion of this Crown, and that future Ages may not have any pretence to give diſturbance upon that Score, or any other of this nature, to declare, as I do here declare in the preſence of Almighty God, That I never was Married, nor gave any Contract to any Woman whatſoever, but to my Wife Queen* Catherine, *to whom I am now Married. In Witneſs whereof I ſet my Hand at* Whitehall *the Sixth of* January 1679.

CHARLES R.

And this Declaration I make in the preſence of

W. Cant.	*H. Coventry.*
H. Finch. C.	*J. Williamſon.*

TO ſtrengthen which Declaration, we did in *March* following (which was *March* laſt was Twelvemonth) make a more Publick Declaration in Our Privy Council, written likewiſe with Our own Hand; and having cauſed a true Tranſcript thereof to be Entred in Our Council Books, We Signed it, and cauſed the Lords of Our Privy Council then attending Us in Council, to Subſcribe the ſame likewiſe, and We Ordered the Original to be kept in the Council Cheſt, where it now remains. The Entry whereof in the Council Book is in theſe words following,

At the Court at *Whitehall*, *March* 3d 1679.
Preſent
The KING'S Moſt Excellent Majeſty

Lord Chancellor	Earl of *Eſſex*
Lord Treaſurer	Earl of *Bathe*
Duke of *Lauderdale*	Earl of *Craven*
Marqueſs of *Worceſter*	Earl of *Aylesbury*
Earl of *Offory*	Lord Biſhop of *London*
Lord *Chamberlain*	Lord Biſhop of *Durham*
Earl of *Sunderland*	Lord *Maynard*
Earl of *Clarendon*	Mr. Vice-Chamberlain.

HIS Majeſty was this day pleaſed to Command, That the Declaration hereafter following be entred in the Council Book, it being all Written and Signed by His Majeſties own Hand, in a Paper which His Majeſty this day delivered at the Board, to be kept in the Council Cheſt, *viz.*

FOr *the avoiding of any Diſpute which may happen in time to come, concerning the Succeſſion of the Crown, I do here Declare in the preſence of Almighty God, That I never gave nor made any Contract of Marriage, nor was Married to any Woman whatſoever, but to My preſent Wife Queen* Catherine *now living.* Whitehal, *the Third day of* March 1679

CHARLES R.

His Majeſty Commanded us who were preſent at the Making and Signing this Declaration, to Atteſt the ſame,

Finch C.	*Eſſex*
Derby	*Bathe*
Lauderdale	*Craven*
Worceſter	*Aylesbury*
Offory	*H. London*
Arlington	*N. Durham*
Sunderland	*W. Maynard*
Clarendon	*G. Carteret.*

IN *April* laſt We found the ſame Rumour not only revived again, but alſo improved with New Additions, to wit, It was given out, That there was a Writing yet extant, and lately produced before ſeveral Perſons, whereby the ſaid Marriage, or a Contract at leaſt (for the Report was various) would appear, and that there are ſeveral Lords and others yet living, who were pretended to have been preſent at the ſaid Marriage. We knew full well that it was impoſſible that any thing of this ſhould be true (there being nothing more groundleſs and falſe then that there was any ſuch Marriage or Contract between Us and the ſaid Mrs *Walters*, alias *Barlow*) yet We proceeded to call before Us, and cauſed to be Interrogated in Council ſuch Lords and other Perſons as the common Rumour did ſurmiſe to have been preſent at the pretended Marriage, or to know ſomething of it, or of the ſaid Writing. And though it appeared to all our Council, upon the hearing of the ſaid Lords and other perſons ſeverally Interrogated, and upon their denying to have been preſent at any ſuch Marriage, or to know any thing of it, or of any ſuch Writing, That the raiſing and ſpreading of ſuch a Report, ſo incoherent in the ſeveral parts of it, was the effect of deep Malice in ſome few, and of looſe and idle Diſcourſe in others; Yet We think it requiſite at this time, to make Our declarations above recited more publick: and to Order the ſame (as we do hereby with the Advice of our Privy Council) to be forthwith Printed and Publiſhed. And We do again upon this Occaſion call Almighty God to Witneſs, and Declare upon the Faith of a Chriſtian, and the Word of a King, that there was never any Marriage, or Contract of Marriage had or made between Us and the ſaid Mrs. *Walters*, alias *Barlow*, the Duke of *Monmouth*'s Mother, nor between Us and any Woman whatſoever, Our Royal Conſort Queen *Catherine*, that now is, only excepted.

And we do hereby ſtrictly require and Command all our Subjects whatſoever, that they preſume not to utter or publiſh any thing contrary to the tenor of this our Declaration, at their Peril, and upon pain of being proceeded againſt according to the utmoſt Severity and Rigour of the Law.

Given at our Court at Whitehall, *the ſecond day of* June, *in the Two and thirtieth year of our Reign.*

Prague, June 1. The third Inſtant their Imperial Majeſties remove from *Brandiss* to *Pardowits*, and from thence it's believed will go to *Linitz*, the Infection ſpreading it ſelf every day more and more in this City and its Neighborhood. The laſt week ſeveral of the Boors that were taken in Arms againſt the Emperor, were Executed, and it's hoped their Puniſhment will deter others.

Francfort, June 5. There has lately been Printed and diſperſed in theſe Parts, a Paper, containing ſeveral conditions offered, as is pretended, by the